



Public Safety

Vision Statement: Promote the health, safety, and security of the City's residents and visitors, including in times of disasters and other emergencies.

Goals, Objectives and Policies:

Goal SAF-1. The City of Coral Gables' shall continue to maintain and enhance high level safety and security for residents and visitors due to the City's excellent police and fire protection services, medical and healthcare services and facilities, and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery plans.

Objective SAF-1.1. The City will continue to implement innovative and state of the art law enforcement techniques and technologies to ensure the health, safety and welfare of residents, businesses and visitors.

Policy SAF-1.1.1. Maintain a well-trained and adequately-staffed police department dedicated to law enforcement activities within the City of Coral Gables.

Policy SAF-1.1.2. Incorporate "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" (CPTED) concepts and techniques to the maximum extent feasible during site planning for new development and redevelopment.

Policy 5-1.1.3. The Police Department shall continue high profile enforcement of all vehicular and non-vehicular traffic laws.

Objective SAF-1.2. The City will continue to ensure that excellent professionally maintained fire rescue services are provided within the City.

Policy SAF-1.2.2. Provide appropriate distribution of emergency service personnel and equipment to strategic locations of the City 24 hours daily, 365 days per year. Provide for distribution of services for building and staffing two new fire stations, one to be located between the existing Fire Stations 2 and 3 and the other new station to be built and located within the Deering Bay area. Both stations shall meet Insurance Services Office (ISO) requirements for response coverage.

Policy SAF-1.2.3. Increase the quality delivery of emergency fire and medical services in a timely, safe and efficient manner for all areas of the City 365 days per year.

Policy SAF-1.2.4 The City shall seek to provide adequate levels of service for water distribution and hydrants for all existing and new areas annexed and serviced by the Fire Department. All existing and new water distribution systems, fire hydrants and flows shall be in compliance with the National Fire Protection Standards (NFPA) and ISO requirements, as amended.

Objective SAF-1.3. The City will continue to ensure outstanding medical and healthcare services.

Policy SAF-1.3.1. Provide appropriate distribution of medical and healthcare facilities to strategic locations of the City through the Future Land Use Map and the Zoning Code.

Objective SAF-1.4. The City shall seek to reduce the exposure of life and property to hurricanes and other disasters through the planning and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery plans.



Public Safety

Policy SAF-1.4.1. Develop an emergency preparedness, response and recovery plan and update it every two years to provide comprehensive pre-disaster planning consistent with Miami-Dade County's Emergency Management Plan.

Policy SAF-1.4.2. Due to the City's location within the Coastal High Hazard Area and general vulnerability to hurricane events, the City shall implement and/or adhere to emergency management and hurricane evacuation plans and procedures through land use controls.

Policy SAF-1.4.3. The City shall coordinate with adjacent municipalities, Miami-Dade County, the Florida Department of Transportation and other agencies, as appropriate, to ensure the ability of the regional transportation network to provide for the safe and timely evacuation of residents in a hurricane or other emergency event.

Objective SAF-1.5. Provide a method for input from citizens concerning the quality of service provided by the Fire Department.

Objective SAF-1.6. Continue to improve and develop public-private public safety ventures with the University of Miami for all future public safety service enhancements.

Goal SAF-2. Protect human life and investment in the coastal area of the City.

Objective SAF-2.1. Limit public expenditures in coastal areas to projects clearly in the public interest and which minimize the risk from storm damage. This objective shall be achieved through the implementation of the following policies.

Policy SAF-2.1.1. Public expenditures for infrastructure improvements shall be located outside flood prone areas, to the extent practicable, to keep floodways as unobstructed as possible.

Policy SAF-2.1.2. Limit public expenditures that subsidize development permitted in coastal areas as defined herein except for restoration or enhancement of natural resources.

Policy SAF-2.1.3. The City shall abide by the Coastal High Hazard Area (CHHA) defined as the area below the elevation of the category 1 storm surge line as established by a Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges from Hurricanes (SLOSH) computerized storm surge model (see SAF-1: Storm Tide Atlas Map).

Policy SAF-2.1.4. The Coastal Area within the City of Coral Gables shall be defined as the land south of the Coral Gables Waterway, east of Old Cutler Road, and north of the southern limit of the City.

Objective SAF-2.2. Assure that future development or redevelopment maintains or reduces hurricane evacuation times. The City establishes an out-of-county hurricane evacuation time for a category 5 hurricane of 16 hours. Mitigation is permitted to achieve and maintain these standards.

Policy SAF-2.2.1. Manage the location of population concentration by maintaining low-density residential land use designations in the CHHA by directing higher-density population concentrations to areas away from the CHHA through the City's land use planning process.

Policy SAF-2.2.2. Monitor hurricane and emergency management studies with the intent of identifying and correcting deficiencies. Continue to integrate regional and local notification and evacuation procedures into the City's Emergency Operations Plan.



Objective SAF-2.3. Establish priorities and development guidelines for post-disaster redevelopment in the coastal area.

Policy SAF-2.3.1. Update the Post Disaster Development Plan annually. The plan shall address land use, public safety, infrastructure, and public investment concerns. The plan shall include policies to distinguish between immediate repair and cleanup actions needed to protect public health and safety and long-term repair and redevelopment activities; and the removal, relocation, or structural modification of damaged infrastructure and unsafe structures. The plan should also ensure all redevelopment shall reduce or eliminate the exposure of human life and public and private property to natural hazards.

Policy SAF-2.3.2. Annually incorporate recommendations of interagency hazard mitigation into the Comprehensive Plan and Post-Disaster Redevelopment Plan. The redevelopment plan shall identify areas which may warrant post-disaster redevelopment, including elimination of unsafe conditions and inappropriate land uses, and limitation of redevelopment in areas of likely repeated damage.

Objective SAF-2.4. Establish priorities and development standards for shoreline uses.

Policy SAF-2.4.1. Provide for increased public access to the shoreline consistent with public needs, continuing and replacing adequate physical public access to shorelines; enforcing the public access requirements of the Coastal Zone Protection Act of 1985, as amended, and providing transportation or parking facilities for shoreline access.

Policy SAF-2.4.2. Utilize interlocal agreements or other methods for coordinating with Miami-Dade County and affected adjacent local governments to complete the following: ensure adequate sites exist for water-dependent uses; reduce exposure to natural hazards; and ensure public shoreline access is maintained.

Policy SAF-2.4.3. Establish priorities for siting water dependent and water related land uses.

Policy SAF-2.4.4. In evaluating applications for marinas or marina siting all of the following shall be addressed: land use compatibility; availability of upland support services; existing protective status or ownership; hurricane contingency planning; protection of water quality; water depth; environmental disruptions and mitigation actions; availability for public use; and, economic need and feasibility. The criteria shall be reviewed by the Planning Department on an annual basis and updated as necessary.

Objective 5-2.5. Reduce the exposure of human life and property to natural hazards in coastal areas.

Policy 5-2.5.1. Regulate building practices, floodplains, beach alteration, storm water management, sanitary sewer and septic tanks, and land use to reduce the exposure of human life and public and private property to natural hazards.

Policy 5-2.5.2. Incorporate the direction provided in the Coral Gables Basic Emergency Operations Plan into the City's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code.

Policy 5-2.5.3. Direct population concentrations away from the CHHA through the City's land use planning process.



Objective 5-2.6. Maintain level of service standards, areas of service and phasing of infrastructure in coastal area.

Policy 5-2.6.1. Limit development in designated coastal areas to uses which have historically proven to be less vulnerable to storm damage.

Policy 5-2.6.2. Relocate or replace infrastructure away from designated CHHAs, where feasible.

Policy 5-2.6.3. Ensure that required infrastructure is available to serve the development or redevelopment at densities proposed by the future land use plan in the coastal area, consistent with coastal resource protection and safe evacuation. Funding for infrastructure shall be phased to coincide with the demands generated by development or redevelopment. Infrastructure shall not be made available unless the development or redevelopment meets the requirements of the Concurrency Management System.

Policy 5-2.6.4. In reviewing applications for shoreline development, first priority shall be directed to the following shoreline uses:

- Non-structural shoreline protection uses such as native shoreline revegetation programs.
- Approved water-dependent shoreline uses such as pile supported access ways and duly permitted dock facilities. All such facilities shall satisfy all applicable county, state and federal regulations and all provisions of the City's Zoning Code and all requisite permits from all environmental permitting agencies prior to obtaining City approval.

Second priority shall be directed toward uses such as:

- Parking facilities for shoreline access located outside wetlands.
- Residential structures that comply with building codes for structures within the coastal building zone.
- Recreational facilities which comply with applicable codes.